



General Assembly

February Session, 2014

Raised Bill No. 229

LCO No. 1378



Referred to Committee on COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN

Introduced by:
(KID)

AN ACT CONCERNING SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST PREVENTION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2014*) (a) For purposes of this
2 section and sections 2 to 4, inclusive, of this act, "intramural or
3 interscholastic athletics" shall include any activity sponsored by a
4 school or local education agency, as defined in section 10-15f of the
5 general statutes, or an organization sanctioned by the local education
6 agency that involves any athletic contest, competition, demonstration,
7 display or club activity.

8 (b) For the school year commencing July 1, 2015, and each school
9 year thereafter, the State Board of Education, in consultation with (1)
10 the Commissioner of Public Health, (2) the governing authority for
11 intramural and interscholastic athletics, (3) an appropriate
12 organization representing licensed athletic trainers, and (4) an
13 organization representing county medical associations, shall develop
14 or approve a sudden cardiac arrest awareness education program for
15 use by local and regional boards of education. Such program shall be
16 implemented in each public school and published on the State Board of

17 Education's Internet web site and shall include: (A) The warning signs
18 and symptoms associated with a sudden cardiac event, (B) the risks
19 associated with continuing to engage in intramural or interscholastic
20 athletics after exhibiting such warning signs and symptoms, (C) the
21 means of obtaining proper medical treatment for a person suspected of
22 experiencing a sudden cardiac event, and (D) the proper method of
23 allowing a student who has experienced a sudden cardiac event to
24 return to intramural or interscholastic athletics.

25 (c) For the school year commencing July 1, 2015, and each school
26 year thereafter, the State Board of Education shall prohibit a student
27 from participating in any intramural or interscholastic athletics unless
28 the student, and a parent or guardian of such student, completes the
29 sudden cardiac arrest awareness education program developed and
30 implemented pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.

31 (d) (1) On or before July 1, 2015, the State Board of Education, in
32 consultation with the organizations described in subdivisions (1) to (4),
33 inclusive, of subsection (b) of this section, shall develop and approve
34 an informed consent form to distribute to the parents and legal
35 guardians of students involved in intramural or interscholastic
36 athletics regarding sudden cardiac events. Such informed consent form
37 shall include, at a minimum, (A) a summary of the sudden cardiac
38 arrest awareness education program described in subsection (b) of this
39 section, and (B) a summary of the applicable local or regional board of
40 education's policies regarding sudden cardiac events.

41 (2) For the school year commencing July 1, 2015, and each school
42 year thereafter, any person who holds or is issued a coaching permit
43 by the State Board of Education and is a coach of intramural or
44 interscholastic athletics shall, prior to commencing the coaching
45 assignment for the season of such school athletics, provide each
46 participating student's parent or legal guardian with a copy of the
47 informed consent form described in subdivision (1) of this subsection
48 and obtain such parent's or legal guardian's signature, attesting to the

49 fact that such parent or legal guardian has received a copy of such
50 form and authorizes the student to participate in the intramural or
51 interscholastic athletics.

52 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2014*) (a) (1) For the school year
53 commencing July 1, 2015, and each school year thereafter, any person
54 who holds or is issued a coaching permit by the State Board of
55 Education and is a coach of intramural or interscholastic athletics shall
56 complete an initial training course regarding sudden cardiac events,
57 developed or approved pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of
58 this section, prior to commencing the coaching assignment for the
59 season of such intramural or interscholastic athletics.

60 (2) For the school year commencing July 1, 2016, and each school
61 year thereafter, any coach who has completed the initial training
62 course described in subdivision (1) of this subsection shall annually
63 review current and relevant information regarding sudden cardiac
64 events, prepared or approved pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection
65 (b) of this section, prior to commencing the coaching assignment for
66 the season of such intramural or interscholastic athletics. Such annual
67 review shall not be required in any year when such coach is required
68 to complete the refresher course, pursuant to subdivision (3) of this
69 subsection, for reissuance of his or her coaching permit.

70 (3) For the school year commencing July 1, 2017, and each school
71 year thereafter, a coach shall complete a refresher course, developed or
72 approved pursuant to subdivision (3) of subsection (b) of this section,
73 not later than five years after completion of the initial training course,
74 as a condition of the reissuance of a coaching permit to such coach.
75 Such coach shall thereafter retake such refresher course at least once
76 every five years as a condition of the reissuance of a coaching permit to
77 such coach.

78 (b) (1) On or before July 1, 2015, the State Board of Education, in
79 consultation with the organizations described in subdivisions (1) to (4),

80 inclusive, of subsection (b) of section 1 of this act, shall develop or
81 approve a training course regarding sudden cardiac events. Such
82 training course shall address, at a minimum: (A) The warning signs
83 and symptoms associated with sudden cardiac arrest, (B) the risks
84 associated with continuing to engage in intramural or interscholastic
85 athletics after exhibiting such warning signs and symptoms, (C) the
86 means of obtaining proper medical treatment for a person suspected of
87 experiencing a sudden cardiac event, and (D) the proper method of
88 allowing a student who has experienced a sudden cardiac event to
89 return to intramural or interscholastic athletics.

90 (2) On or before July 1, 2016, and annually thereafter, the State
91 Board of Education, in consultation with the organizations described
92 in subdivisions (1) to (4), inclusive, of subsection (b) of section 1 of this
93 act, shall develop or approve annual review materials regarding
94 current and relevant information about sudden cardiac events.

95 (3) On or before July 1, 2017, the State Board of Education, in
96 consultation with the organizations described subdivisions (1) to (4),
97 inclusive, of subsection (b) of section 1 of this act, shall develop or
98 approve a refresher course regarding sudden cardiac events. Such
99 refresher course shall include, but not be limited to, (A) an overview of
100 key recognition and safety practices, (B) an update on medical
101 developments and current best practices in the field of sudden cardiac
102 arrest prevention and treatment, and (C) an update on new relevant
103 federal, state and local laws and regulations.

104 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2014*) (a) (1) The coach of any
105 intramural or interscholastic athletics shall immediately remove a
106 student from participating in any intramural or interscholastic athletics
107 who is observed to exhibit signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent
108 with a sudden cardiac event. Not later than twenty-four hours after
109 such removal the coach shall inform the student's parent or legal
110 guardian that the student has exhibited such signs, symptoms or
111 behaviors consistent with a sudden cardiac event.

112 (2) The coach shall not permit such student to participate in any
 113 supervised athletic activities involving physical exertion, including,
 114 but not limited to, practices, games or competitions, until such student
 115 (A) receives written clearance to participate in such supervised athletic
 116 activities involving physical exertion from a licensed health care
 117 professional trained in the evaluation and management of cardiac
 118 events, and (B) provides to the coach an informed consent form,
 119 prescribed by the State Board of Education and signed by the student's
 120 parent or legal guardian, attesting that such parent or legal guardian
 121 authorizes the student athlete to participate in intramural or
 122 interscholastic athletics.

123 (b) For purposes of this section, "licensed health care professional"
 124 means a physician licensed pursuant to chapter 370 of the general
 125 statutes, a physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 370 of the
 126 general statutes, an advanced practice registered nurse licensed
 127 pursuant to chapter 378 of the general statutes or an athletic trainer
 128 licensed pursuant to chapter 375a of the general statutes.

129 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2014*) The State Board of Education
 130 may revoke the coaching permit, in accordance with the provisions of
 131 subsection (i) of section 10-145b of the general statutes, of any coach
 132 found to be in violation of any of the provisions of sections 2 and 3 of
 133 this act.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To establish a sudden cardiac arrest awareness education program to educate students, parents and school staff about the dangers of sudden cardiac events during intramural and interscholastic athletics.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]